# AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 – 6     (Canceled)

7.     (Original)     A method for improving the routing of signals through an array macro embedded in a semiconductor chip wherein the macro comprises a plurality of slices, each having different porosities depending on the number of channels extending therethrough, the method comprising the steps of:

(a)     developing a chip floor plan including early timing allocation and proposed array placement;

(b)     flagging critical logical wiring nets and overlaying the floor plan with the nets;

(c)     making an initial selection of slices for the macro based upon the number of channels required at each location within the macro; and

(d)     assembling the macro with the placement of slices to provide porosities based upon the channel requirements.

8.     (Previously presented)     The method according to claim 7 wherein the slices divide a plurality of functional blocks wherein blocks with the same functionality have the same height and width .

9.     (Original)     The method according to claim 7 wherein the step of chip floor planning includes establishing a base level of porosity in the chip.

10.     (Original)     The method according to claim 7 wherein the array comprises a field programmable gate array.

11.     (Original)     The method according to claim 7 including the further step of changing slices after floor planning to make further adjustments in porosity.

12.    (Original)    The method according to claim 11 wherein the changes occur during the execution phase of chip design prior to chip construction.

13.    (Currently amended)    A macro for use in a field programmable gate array embedded in a semiconductor chip, said macro containing a plurality of pre-wired slices, each of which has a unique porosity factor representing wiring channels within the slice, the slices positioned at locations within the chip wherein the number of wiring channels in each slice corresponds to the number of circuit lines in the chip passing through the macro  at each location within the macro.

14-16  (Canceled)

17.    (Original)    The macro according to claim 13 wherein the size of each slice corresponds the degree of porosity of the slice.

18-23  (Canceled)